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PSC 355.01: Theories of Civil Violence

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Texts: Kalyvas, *The Logic of Violence in Civil War*
Coady, *Morality and Political Violence*

Requirements:

This course is intended to (A) identify the various forms of civil violence and (B) explore different theories, interpretations, and perspectives that have been offered to explain why and under what conditions civil violence occurs. This review will result in the development of a model making it possible to describe conditions conducive to civil violence, predict when it is likely to occur, and identify who is likely to participate.

Course assessment will be based on three exams and one research paper. Of these, two exams (including the final) are required. The second exam and the research paper are optional. These are not for extra credit but rather provide an opportunity to earn a better grade. The first exam will be on September 29 and the second on November 3. A comprehensive final exam is scheduled for December 10, 8:00-10:00. NO EARLY FINALS WILL BE GIVEN. Exams will consist of identification, short answer and/or essay questions. (BLUEBOOKS REQUIRED)

Optional Paper: The paper should be ten pages minimum or 2500 words and should be based on no fewer than three sources, not including the textbooks. The bibliography should consist only of works consulted but not referenced in footnotes. Footnotes and bibliography entries should be in the Turabian style. The first step is to write a short statement indicating the nature of the project. This should be done in the first two or three weeks of the semester.

In order to make the experience of this course as congenial as possible for all concerned, you are asked to observe the following rules. Do not come to class late or depart early. Do not use class time to read, write letters, chat with your neighbors or engage in other activities not related to the course.

TOPIC OUTLINE:

READING ASSIGNMENT

1. Introduction

Coady, Ch. 1; Kalyvas, Intro

2. Concepts and Terms

Coady, Ch. 2; Kalyvas, Ch. 1, 2

3. Civil Violence

A. Violence – a typology

Kalyvas, Ch. 7

B. Causes

Kalyvas, Ch. 2

C. Social Factors	Kalyvas, Ch. 4
D. Economics	
E. Control regimes	Kalyvas, Ch. 8
F. Interpersonal violence	Kalyvas, Ch. 10

First Exam—September 29

4. Violence and legitimacy	Coady, Ch. 3
A. Just War Theory	Coady, Ch. 4, 5
B. Violence and “innocent” victims	Coady, Ch. 7; Kalyvas, Ch. 6
C. Rules of War	Coady, Ch. 6, 9, Kalyvas, Ch. 3
D. “Illegal combatants”	Coady, Ch. 10
E. Morality of violence	Coady, Ch. 11
F. Limits of peace	Coady, Ch. 13, 14
4. Irregular warfare	
A. Collaboration	Kalyvas, Ch. 4
B. Control	Kalyvas, Ch. 5

Second Exam--November 3

5. 21 st century violence	
A. Terrorism	Coady, Ch. 8
B. The “war on terror”	
C. WMD	Coady, Ch. 12
D. Counter measures	
6. Who Participates?	

Final Exam December 10 (08:00-10:00)

Note: October 10 is the last day to drop classes or change grading option.